



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lee W. MUELLER

Conf. No. 1985

Application No.: 09/603,727

Examiner: Mark R. Wendell

Filed: June 23, 2000

Art Unit: 3635

For: Pre-Assembled Shear Panel

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

***INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SUBMITTED WITH A REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION FILED PRIOR TO PAYMENT OF THE ISSUE FEE***

Prosecution in the above-identified application is closed, as the Patent Office has issued a Notice of Allowance. This is a request for continued examination, accompanied by the appropriate fee and this submission, prior to payment of the Issue Fee. The submission constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement only. No changes to the claims are requested.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is required; however, this is a conditional petition and authorization to pay the necessary fees under 37 CFR §1.36(a) to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which Applicant is aware that Applicant believes may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be,

material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

This information disclosure statement is accompanied by Form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for Form PTO-1449) and legible copies of all cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature listed in said form. Pursuant to Notice of August 5, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patent documents and publications are not enclosed.

Further, in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) and MPEP§ 609(III)(A)(3), Applicant submits that reference nos. B1 through and B5 are not in the English language and submits the following concise statements as to their relevance. Applicant's attorney has in his possession what appear to be partial translations of these references and is enclosing those partial translations with the references.

B1 — Published Japanese Patent Application JP-U1-S49-108213

JP-U1-S49-108213 discloses a mechanical connection between a substantially planar ceiling member 4 and a ceiling joist 7. The connection is made by means of at least one nail 8 that pierces an elongated u-shaped member, translated as a key joint 1, that is disposed on the ceiling member 4 at its edge. Nail 8 terminates within the ceiling joist 7.

B2 — Published Japanese Utility Model Application JP-U1-S52-19113

JP-U1-S52-19113 discloses a mechanical connection between a substantially planar main ceiling member 1 and an unidentified member shown in cross section in the drawings. The connection is made by means of at least one fastener 5, which appears to be a nail that pierces a u-shaped member, translated as a reinforcement cover 2 that is disposed on the main ceiling member 1 at its edge. The fastener 5 terminates within the unidentified member.

B3 — Published Japanese Patent Application JP-A-H08-284296

JP-A-H08-284296 discloses a mechanical connection between a substantially planar Autoclaved Lightweight Concrete panel 12 and a c-type section 11 or member 26. The connection is made by means of at least one screw 8 that pierces an elongated anchor plate 17 that is disposed within panel 12 near its edge. The fastener 18 terminates within the unidentified member 26.

B4 — Published Japanese Utility Model Application JP-U1-S57-143307

JP-U1-S57-143307 discloses a wooden structural panel 1 for a building. Based on the partial translation in the practitioner's files, the reference, at the least, also discloses a connection (A) between the structural panel 1 and a member 3 supporting the structural panel 1. The

wooden structural panel 1 consists of framing members 6, 6a and 6b covered by surface plates 7. A reinforcement member or material 9 is disposed over a lower portion of the structural panel 1 and over a portion of the member 3.

B5 — Published Japanese Utility Model Application JP-U1-S57-106810

JP-U1-S57-106810 appears to disclose a mechanical connection between a substantially planar member 1 and a member 3. The connection is made by means of at least one nail 4 that pierces an elongated member 2 that is disposed on the substantially planar member 1 at its edge. The nail 4 terminates within the member 3.

The person making this certification is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and in the practitioner's file.

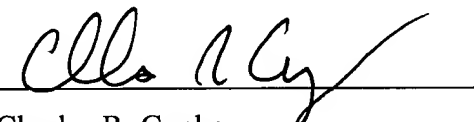
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and the requisite fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e).

While no further fee is believed to be due for this paper, if this belief is in error, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-4075 (Atty. Dkt. No. SST/1070).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 2, 2009

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Attachments: Form PTO/SB/08 (1 pg)
Six foreign references
Three non-prior art references